

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 OFA-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-02 OES-05 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8157

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, CA

SUBJ: LOS: US ACTIVITY ON 200-MILE FISHING LIMIT

1. UNDER HEADLINE " OTTAWA WATCHING US ACTIVITY ON
200-MILE FISHING LIMIT," TORONTO GLOBE & MAIL NOV 24
RAN ARTICLE PORTIONS OF WHICH FOLLOW:

BEGIN QUOTE:

CANADIAN OFFICIALS ARE WATCHING WITH CONCERN THE DE-
VELOPMENT IN WASHINGTON OF LEGISLATION THAT COULD FORCE
THE US GOVERNMENT TO MAKE A UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF A
200-MILE FISHERIES LIMIT.

THE OFFICIALS SAY THAT SUCH A MOVE WOULD FORCE CANADA
TO AT LEAST CONSIDER TAKING SIMILAR ACTION AT A TIME WHEN
IT HAS HOPES OF ACHIEVING VIRTUALLY THE SAME RESULT
THROUGH BILATERAL NEGOTIATION WITH SEVERAL COUNTRIES ...

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CONCERNED CANADIANS SAY CANADA MAY HAVE TO DUPLICATE

UNILATERAL EXTENSION OF THE US FISHERIES ZONE TO PROTECT WATERS SHE FEELS SHOULD COME UNDER HER JURISDICTION. THEY SAY IF JURISDICTIONAL LINES ARE TO BE DRAWN IN AN ORDERLY WAY, CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES SHOULD MOVE OUT TO 200 MILES AT THE SAME TIME ...

U.S. UNILATERAL ACTION ALSO WOULD COME WHEN CANADA, IF ALL GOES WELL IN FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS, WILL HAVE ACHIEVED SUFFICIENT CONTROL OVER BOTH THE FISH STOCKS AND WHO FISHES FOR THEM WITHIN A 200-MILE ZONE ON BOTH COASTS THROUGH AGREEMENTS WITH DISTANT-FISHING COUNTRIES ...

CANADIAN EXPERTS SAY SUCH AGREEMENTS, PLUS UNDERTAKINGS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERY FOR A 40 PERCENT REDUCTION IN FOREIGN FISHING EFFORTS, WOULD PROVIDE CANADA WITH ALMOST THE SAME PROTECTION IT WOULD HAVE UNDER UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF A 200-MILE ZONE.

IT ALSO WOULD BE EASIER TO ENFORCE A SERIES OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS THAN A UNILATERAL DECLARATION. THIS WAS SHOWN BY THE PROBLEMS ICELAND HAD IN ENFORCING ITS NEW 200-MILE LIMIT ...

THE SOVIET UNION, IN PARTICULAR, WOULD LIKE THE RIGHT TO EXCHANGE CREWS IN CANADIAN PORTS, A PRIVILEGE DENIED FOREIGN FLEETS AT PRESENT. THAT IS REGARDED AS A STRONG BARGAINING POINT FOR CANADA ... END QUOTE

2. IN EDITORIAL OF NOV 22 OTTAWA CITIZEN SAID NEGOTIATIONS WITH USSR ON 200-MILE LIMIT, IF SUCCESSFUL AT ALL, ARE LIKELY TO LEAD TO "SECOND-BEST SOLUTION" FOR PROBLEM. EDITORIAL EMPHASIZED ADVANTAGE OF POSSIBLE LOS CONFERENCE MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT OVER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS IN TERMS OF MORAL AND PRACTICAL ENFORCEMENT OF LIMIT.

3. COMMENT: ARTICLES REPRESENT GROWING PUBLIC INTEREST ON HOW BEST TO IMPLEMENT 200-MILE LIMIT.
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WHILE SUPPORTING BILATERAL EFFORTS, PRESS STILL GENERALLY CONSIDERS BEST SOLUTION MULTILATERAL.
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